

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00590 152322Z

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00
/020 W

-----152333Z 055028 /75-70

O 152156Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2465

INFO ALL CONSULATES IN CANADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, CA

SUBJ: PAUL LAPOINTE, COUNSELOR, CANADIAN UN MISSION: BIO

1. PAUL LAPOINTE, 42, SERVED AT THE CANADIAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UN EUROPEAN OFFICE IN GENEVA AS FIRST SECRETARY AND CONSUL (1968-70) AND COUNSELOR (1970-72). HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE LEGAL OPERATIONS DIVISION AND CHIEF OF THE LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) SECTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FROM 1972 TO 1975. IN 1975 HE WAS ASSIGNED AS DCM IN NEW DELHI BUT WAS REASSIGNED IN 1976 TO THE CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UN WHERE HE HANDLES LOS MATTERS AS WELL AS SECURITY COUNCIL ISSUES.

2. DURING A MARCH 1971 CONVERSATION WITH A U.S. OFFICIAL, LAPOINTE EXPRESSED HIS DISTRESS AT THE THEN STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES. HE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CANADIAN POSITION ON LOS MATTERS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE STRAIN IN RELATIONS, BUT HE FELT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD TAKEN MOST LEGALISTIC AND STRICT POSITION ON A VARIETY OF LOS QUESTIONS. HE ADDED THAT EVENTUALLY THIS COUNTRY WOULD FIND IT NECESSARY TO ACKNOWLEDGE A DEGREE OF CONTROL OVER INTERNATIONAL STRAITS BY THE RESPECTIVE COASTAL STATES.

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3. AFTER RECEIVING A B.A. DEGREE FROM THE SEMINARY OF QUEBEC AND AN LL.L. DEGREE FROM LAVAL UNIVERSITY, LAPOINTE WAS CALLED TO THE QUEBEC BAR IN 1958. HE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS 2 YEARS LATER AND WORKED IN THE COMMONWEALTH, CONSULAR AND PROTOCOL DIVISIONS UNTIL 1961. DURING 1961-62 HE WAS AN ADVISER TO THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN LAOS. LAPOINTE SERVED AS THIRD SECRETARY AND LATER SECOND SECRETARY OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN PARIS DURING 1962-63. HE THEN RETURNED TO OTTAWA AND WORKED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND IN THE LEGAL DIVISION UNTIL 1968.

4. LAPOINTE WAS A DELEGATE TO THE MEETING OF THE UN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE SEABED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION IN JUNE 1968. AND HE HAS ATTENDED SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS OF THE UN SEABED COMMITTEE. IN JANUARY 1974 HE TRAVELED TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR LOS DISCUSSIONS. HE ALSO ATTENDED THE THIRD UN LOS CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS HELD IN CARACAS DURING JUNE-AUGUST 1974.

5. MARRIED TO THE FORMER IRIS DONATI, LAPOINE HAS A CHILD.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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